

ST. THOMAS MORE PARISH Convent Station, New Jersey 973-267-5330 Body and Blood of Christ June 7, 2015

Body and Blood of Christ

What's Happening

Today Holy Father Collection

Next Sunday Second Collection Clothing Collection

Every Sunday Pound A Week

Check it Out - But Hurry

NYC's Museum of Biblical Art is closing its doors. The museum hosted biblically-inspired exhibitions. "Sculpture in the Age of Donatello, will remain on view through next Sunday. MOBIA is at 1865 Broadway between Columbus Circle and Lincoln Center. For more information ,visit www.mobia.org.

Holy Cross Reunion

Holy Cross Church, Harrison. is celebrating its 150 anniversary. If you were a student and/or parishioner, they would love to be in touch. Info: Holy Cross Church, 16 Church Square, Harrison, N.J. 07029, Attention: Anniversary Committee or holycrossanniversary@gmail.com

Wanted: Sales Person

We are looking at a new communications venture to be funded with advertising. We are looking for one or two sales interested people to seek ads from local advertisers. Compensation by commission based stipend. Contact the parish office.

Pedals for Progress

Morris County M.U.A. is sponsoring a used bicycle collection program Sat. June 13, noon–3 pm at Morris County College, Parking Lot #1. \$10 fee per bicycle to help defray shipping costs. Info: Liz Sweedy, 973-285-8393 or Isweedv@MCMUA. com. Bicycles in reasonably good condition and helmets, Working Sewing machines, Tools, such as wrenches

Pedals for Progress sends these to needy people in developing countries. Bikes provide reliable transportation for commuting to work, transporting produce to market, or accessing health care and other services.

Sustainability Conference

STM has joined other churches, committed to assist neighbors should our area experience natural or other disasters. Consider joining this effort. Atlantic Health is sponsoring a conference at St. E's, October 21-22 with a wide variety of topics related to empowering adaptable communities and learning tangible skills we can apply in this work. Anyone interested should contact the parish office. Info: atlantichealth. org/adaptablecommunities.



JNF

WELCOME

To all our visitors this weekend

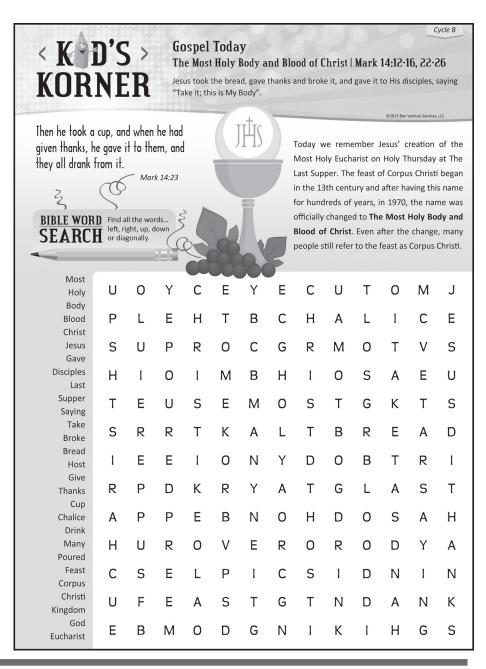


Please remember the sick and homebound of our Parish.

We are all called to prayer. As a faith community, let us keep in mind all those who have asked us to pray for them, that they may experience the healing power of our gracious God

Peter An, Elaine Bellock, Eric Braham, Pat Brennan, Maureen Brodeur, Jim Cavanaugh, Cheryl, Dan Doyle, Frank Falcone, Joe & Peg Farrell, Mary Finlay, John Flaherty, Hayley Kuhn, Maria Ludwig, Joseph Montgomery, Adalcina Antao Moreira, Fr. Charles Parr, Michael Papalos, John Pra, Christopher Raiola, Tom Warren, Diane Zadrozny.

If you know someone whose name should be removed, please keep us informed. To add a name, please fill out a form on the desk in the church vestibule or in the rectory.





Parish on a Journey

Parish Birthdays in June

- Nick Losito
- 3 Evelyn Codd
- 4 Don Clark
- 4 Anthony Justo
- 5 John Abbondanzo
- 6 Cormac Bateson 7 Jerry Hoffman
- 8 Toto Arenas
- 8 Eileen O'Brien
- 8 Rita Roscoe
- 9 Alejandro Arenas
- 9 Millie Tuminello
- 10 Gale Carlin
- 11 Janet Bobbin
- **Arthur Pappas** 11
- 11 Michelle Sandjaja
- 13 Victoria Helmer
- 15 Monica Alvarado
- 16 Lauren Kohl



- Larry Bobbin 17
- Daniel Basile 18 19 Margaret Deysher
- 21 Joan Hoffman
- Giandomenico Sarolli 24
- 25 **Richard Anthony**
- 26 Dan Carey
- 27 Michelle Lawlor
- 29 Jim Forgione
 - 29 Maureen Rhatigan
- Alice & Carmen Galdieri (64)
- 4 Joan & Jerry Hoffman (55)
- 19 Lisa & Jason Jordan (16
- 21 Margaret & Robert Droz)d (54) 1 22 Rosemarie & Tony Raiola (52)
- 25 Lis & Tony Olivo (43)
- 27 Karen & Dave De Nooyer (45)

PREPARING FOR **NEXT WEEK'S LITURGY**

Eleventh Sunday of the Year

First Reading: Ezechiel 17:22-24

Ezekiel was a major Old Testament prophet who ministered to the Jewish people exiled in Babylon. He often used parables and dramatizations to convey his message. In this passage, Ezekiel uses the image of trees to talk about the restoration of Israel and the fall of the Babylonian empire.

Second Reading: 2 Corinthians 5:6-10 We continue today to read from Paul's second letter to the Corinthians. In this section of the letter, Paul describes our life on earth as a pilgrimage home to heaven.

God's Grace is Young Enough

For the Young and Young At Heart Readings for this Sunday

Exodus 24:3-8; Hebrews 9:11-15; Mark 14:12-26

This is My Body

Suggested Reflection Questions

- What does the Eucharist mean to you? Recall an experience at Mass when you felt close to God.
- What are your biggest challenges in getting to Mass on Sunday? What are the biggest challenges for you in being part of a community of faith?
- The psalmist sings that our bonds have been loosened. What has been keeping you down or holding you back? Discuss a time in your life when you felt truly freed by Christ
- Jesus gave us his body and blood out of total love for us. We remember this ultimate act of love each time we celebrate Mass. When have you totally given yourself in love? When has someone given themselves in love for you?

Body & Blood of Christ — Full Eucharistic Devotion

Eucharistic Presence

The first reading this weekend from the Book of Exodus makes a very bold and confident statement of faith. "All that the LORD has said, we will heed and do." People of faith must constantly be reminded of what God says and their willingness to accept what is said through lives of service. It is interesting to note that the sprinkling of blood on the people is really a profound statement of connection and sharing; of God sharing the life of his covenant with his people and the people sharing their lives with God. The Eucharist, the heart and center of Catholic life, brings this sharing to its most perfect level.

At every Eucharist and in a particular way this week as we celebrate the Feast of the Body and Blood of Christ, we have to remind ourselves of what God is saying and asking us to do. St. Augustine stated it most clearly when he said that it is through the Eucharist that we become what we eat. Ultimately, then, God is asking us to become the very image of Christ. The Eucharist is not something celebrated for the sole purpose of getting us to heaven. While the Letter to the Hebrews reminds us of the "promised eternal inheritance" that awaits us, it is even more profound. The Eucharist is celebrated so that transformation can occur in the lives of those who receive Christ! We become what we eat.

Mark's Gospel reminds us that on that first night of Passover, a New Covenant came into being. It was a covenant that asked the first disciples and those who follow after to do all that the Lord had commanded and to become like him. The amen we acclaim when presented with the body and blood of Christ is not only a statement of our faith in the Real Presence but a bold assent of faith in our willingness to become that presence!

It is no secret that Jesus went out to those most in need. He forgave the sinner, ate with the outcast, defended and fed the poor and hungry, worked for true justice, risked being unpopular, willingly accepted suffering and death, always stayed connected with his Abba Father, and consistently reminded folks that God's compassion, love, and mercy trump everything, even the law. This is the Christ that the Eucharist calls us to be. As we look around our churches, our town and cities, and our world there are many places and people who need to see the face and body of Christ. Some of those most in need may be right within our families. But it is always in the poorest of the poor and those most vulnerable where the greatest need exists. When the gift of the eucharistic Christ takes root in our hearts, we can more readily see the face of Christ in others.

There are many who are vulnerable, and high on the list are the homeless. They show us the face of Christ. Whatever the cause, to have no place to go and no place to call home takes a toll on the human spirit. For Jesus when there were hungry people, they were fed. God asks us to do the same ... feed people. There are many who are hungry physically, emotionally, and spiritually. Gifted by the eucharistic presence of Christ, we bring them Christ himself. Who are the hungry around us and how can we feed them?

When others are hurting, you comfort them. When

others are hungry, you feed them. When others need clothes, you provide them. When others are cold, you warm them. When others are in prison, you visit them. With over a million people who are homeless and over a quarter of them children, it is important to ask the question why and strategize for ways to lessen the problem or at least effectively respond. But asking the question "why" cannot let us off the hook for responding to the immediate need that presents itself at our door.



At the presentation of the Gifts, the presider presents the bread and wine with words that speak of fruit of the vine and work of human hands. This bread and wine of great dignity are often produced by workers how are denied dignified working conditions. One half-century after farmworkers safe and humane conditions, workers still die from dehydration due to lack of available water, while harvesting grapes which may have been used for wine presented at a eucharistic table.

Whether a person's current station in life is self-imposed or the result of being victimized, it is second to the fact that that person still needs help. We cannot lock the door and send others away and still believe we are the presence of Christ. It doesn't work like that.

The issues behind the cause of homelessness, loneliness, depression, and all of the things that "starve" people and rob them of freedom and life are complicated with no easy answers to be found. People are complicated. Our shelters are filled with people who have tremendous stories to tell, stories of domestic violence, of being a lost and emotionally wounded veteran, of not being able to afford rent and provide for their families in spite of working two jobs, of losing their homes, of losing their spouse, and of struggling with mental illness and addiction. When you listen to what these people have to say and their eyes meet yours, they are the eyes of Christ and they need to see Christ looking back.

The Eucharist, the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ, is about celebrating, strengthening, enriching, focusing, and becoming. The tabernacles in our churches may need to be locked but the tabernacles of our hearts need to be wide open. John 6:51 reminds us that Jesus is the living bread that came down from heaven. Figure out who around you is hungry, make an act of faith, and be that living bread for them. Leave what you are to do and what you are to say to the One who lives within you. "I will take the cup of salvation, and call on the name of the Lord."

Adapted from an article by Rev. Mark Suslenko

Welcome to St. Thomas More Parish

We are glad you decided to celebrate with our Parish Family. If you have recently moved into the parish and would like to register as a parishioner, please take a parish membership form at the entrances of the church or email and we will send you a form. Hopefully we can set up an appointment to meet one another. Or you may call the parish office at 973-267-5330.

Whether you are new or a veteran, consider joining or helping in the various areas of parish life. Call the office. Interested in something you don't see, don't be shy, talk to Fr. Joe.

SOME MINISTRIES and ORGANIZATIONS

Bereavement Ministry
Collection Counters
Home/Sick Visits
mmunion Youth Ministry
Ushers/Greeters
Pastoral Council

Visit of Eucharist at Home. Communion may be brought to the home of any person permanently or temporarily homebound. For the confined, elderly and/or shut-in at home or in the hospital, our parish ministers make calls to homes and hospitals. Fill out the form below..

Moving In or Out? If you are relocating either in or out of the parwqe ish area please takes a moment to help keep our records current. Contact the parish office or drop a note into the collection basket.



You may call me with specifics (address, etc.):

Tel. or email:

Saint Thomas More Parish



Daily Eucharists & Remembrances

Word of God this Week

Set time aside each day this week, with other members of your household, friends, other members of the parish or alone to listen to and reflect on the living Word of God. These passages from the Lectionary are assigned for Liturgy this week. Reflect on how the Lord is inviting you to a deeper union with him.

Body & Blood of Christ

5:00 p.m Sam Ardonlino, James Cummings 9:00 a.m Thomas & Mary Applin, J. DeSena 11:00 a.m Robert Maloney 7:00 p.m Frank Depkovich Monday-2 Cor 1:1-7; Mt 5:1-12

Ellen Krohn **Tuesday**-2 Cor 1:17, Mt 5:1-12 Ellen Krohn **Tuesday**-2 Cor 1:18-22; Mt 5:13-16 Wednesday-2 Cor 3:4-11; Mt 5:17-19 Patricia & James Kiernan **Thursday**-Acts 11:21-3:3; Mt 5:20-26 Friday-Hos 11:1-9; Eph 3:8-19; Jn 19:31-37 Saturday-2 Cor 5:14-21; Mt 5:33-37 Susan & Thomas Brennan

11th Sunday in Ordinary Time 5:00 p.m John Carlin 9:00 a.m Linda Barrett, June DeSena 7:00 p.m Joe Rooney

Rest in peace

Sebastian Choondassery, Fr. Das's father entered eternal life this weekend. He began failing last week soon after Sharon, his granddaughter returned home from St. E's. We offer our prayers and our sympathy to their family at this time.

Stewardship of Treasure

Last Week's Collection: \$ 4840 May Online Donations: \$ 1565 Please sign up for electronic giving. Regularly scheduled donations through electronic giving help us budget better, and it provides donors with accurate records of their payments. Visit stthommore.weshareonline.org today to sign up for automatic donations and schedule your regular parish donations. It's that simple. If you need help, call the parish office. Thank you for your continued generosity!

Caring for the Sick

Morristown Hospital needs Extraordinary Ministers and Pastoral Visitors to assist in its ministry to the sick. Info: Sr. Jo Mascera, SSC, 973-971-5913.

Are you Registered?

Our parish invites all to participate fully in our spiritual and social life. Households wishing to join are asked to register as "official" members. Forms are in the vestibule and parish office. If you would like a form sent to you or you're not sure if you're registered, call the office or email info@ stmnj.org.



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